

## **IN THE CLAIMS**

Please enter the following amendments:

1. (currently amended) A method for transferring information between ~~multiple~~ buyers and ~~multiple~~ vendors, comprising:

receiving information corresponding to ~~a plurality of~~ one or more products from ~~a plurality of sources~~ one or more of the vendors, the information characterizing the one or more products and being of a static nature;

storing the information ~~in a first database~~;

receiving a request for a portion of the stored information ~~stored in the first database~~;

retrieving the portion of the stored information corresponding to the request ~~from the first database~~;

~~posting using the retrieved portion of the stored information to maintain a dynamic record of product parameters on a second database, the information corresponding to the request; and~~

providing to the vendors, according to pre-authorized permissions, selective access to subsets the dynamic record of product parameters of the one or more products; and ~~of the second database to a plurality of subscribers.~~

triggering a specific action related to the dynamic record of product parameters.

2. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising providing access between at least one of the ~~plurality of subscribers~~ buyers and at least one of the ~~plurality of sources~~ vendors.

3. (currently amended) An inventory management system, comprising:  
a central node;  
a plurality of vendors electronically coupled to the central node;  
a plurality of buyers electronically coupled to the central node; and  
a first database and a second ~~databases~~ database electronically coupled  
to the central node;

wherein the first database includes product information from the vendors related to product characteristics and being of a static nature and the second database includes inventory information related to dynamic product totals;

wherein ~~when~~ a request from one of the plurality of vendors and the plurality of buyers is received as ~~at~~ the central node which ~~system~~ obtains information stored on the first database from at least one of the plurality of vendors and in response to the request uses ~~displays the~~ a subset of said information ~~on the~~ in combination with the inventory information from the second database for selective access by and display to one of the plurality of vendors and the plurality of buyers according to predetermined permissions; and

triggering re-supply of inventory by one or more of the plurality of vendors in response to a determination that the inventory has dropped below a predetermined re-supply level without further authorization.

4. (New) The method of Claim 1 wherein the static information includes product information.

5. (New) The method of Claim 1 wherein the access to the stored information is granted to one or more of the buyers.

6. (New) The method of Claim 1 wherein access to the stored information is granted to one or more of the vendors.

7. (New) The method of Claim 1 further including providing buyers information related to one or more of inventory, product mix, and stocking levels based on a continuous record of product usage and disposition, providing buyers with a

reordering tool, and providing vendors information related to one or more of product sales, product mix, manufacturing cycles, selling methods and supply.

8. (New) The method of Claim 1 wherein the stored information includes the inventory of one or more of the buyers and access is provided to one or more of the vendors.

9. (New) The method of Claim 1 wherein the inventory is of one or more of the vendors and access is provided to one or more of the buyers.

10. (New) The method of Claim 1 wherein the receiving information step is preceded by acquiring the information by way of data capture devices.

11. (New) The method of Claim 10 wherein the data capture devices are associated with the vendors.

12. (New) The method of Claim 10 wherein one or more of the data capture devices are associated with each of the buyers.

13. (New) The method of Claim 10 wherein data capture devices are located at both the vendors and the buyers.

14. (New) The method of Claim 1 further including the setting of one or more predetermined product re-supply thresholds for each of the buyers.

15. (New) The method of Claim 14 further comprising triggering one or more of a re-supply and a billing event when one or more of the predetermined product re-supply thresholds are met.

16. (New) The inventory management system of Claim 3 wherein the vendors each include at least one data capture device being in communication with the central

node and capable of obtaining vendor information related to vendor product, the product information being conveyable to and storable in said first database.

17. (New) The inventory management system of Claim 16 wherein the buyers each include at least one data capture device being in communication with said central node and capable of obtaining at least the product inventory information from the buyers, the product inventory information being conveyable to and storable in the first database.

18. (New) The inventory management system of Claim 17 wherein the vendors are permitted access to a first subset of the information related to the product inventory information by way of the second database.

19. (New) The inventory management system of Claim 18 wherein the buyers are granted access to a second subset of the vendor information related to the vendor by accessing the second database.

21. (New) A method for a vendor to manage inventory of one or more customers, comprising:

- acquiring information related to inventory of one or more products of each of the one or more customers;

- obtaining pre-authorization to re-supply the one or more products when inventory of the one or more products drops below a predetermined re-supply level; and

- managing the inventory comprising the steps of:

- accessing the acquired information; and

- triggering re-supply by the vendor in response to a determination that the inventory has dropped below the predetermined re-supply level of the product without further authorization.